

International Theatre Institute ITI

World Organization for the Performing Arts

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Ellen Stewart 1975

May I thank you for this opportunity to speak with you on this day-World Theatre Day.

I believe with all my heart that we must continue to speak together with tolerance and understanding everywhere in this world, or we will perish. We in the theatre have worked in many places and in many languages. We have welcomed each other in our theatres and we have been enriched beyond measure both in mind and in spirit.

Theatre can generate love, and love is the energy of survival.

In the middle of my fears for all our lives and for our future, I rejoice, for I know that theatre artists have already begun to join hands around this world. And one day, the circle will be completed in one enormous embrace.